

Message Text

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20

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 EB-11 TRSE-00 COME-00 OMB-01 GAC-01 RSR-01

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P 240501 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO AMEMBASSY TEHERAN PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9466

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

UNCLAS DACCA 1752

ISLAMABAD FOR DEPSEC RUSH

E O 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT, BG

SUBJECT: FURTHER PRESS COMMENT RUSH VISIT DACCA

1. OPPOSITION BENGALI GANOKANTHA CONTINUED ITS VITUPRATIVE CRITICISM OF RUSH/ SISCO DACCA VISIT. AN APRIL 20 EDITORIAL HEADED " WATCH OUT" STATES THAT AFTER THE ARRIVAL OF THE TWO DIPLOMATS IN DACCA AN UNPRECEDENTED STIR WAS NOTICED IN POLITICAL CIRCLES HERE. " WE HAVE NO COMMENT ON THIS," THE EDITORIAL SAYS, " BUT THE TRUTH, WHICH CAME OUT FROM THE AIRTIGHT WALL OF MR. RUSH' S QUESTION- ANSWER SESSION WITH NEWSMEN WAS THAT WHATEVER THE VERBAL COMMENTS OF THE AMERICAN OFFICIALS MIGHT BE, THE US WAS ON PAKISTAN' S SIDE IN ALL SUBCONTINENTAL AFFAIRS AND STILL MAINTAINS THAT POLICY. THE US WANTS SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS ONLY TO SAFEGUARD PAKISTAN' S INTERESTS." REFERRING TO THE BITTER EXPERIENCE OF DECEMBER 1971, THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDES " COULD THE PEOPLE ERASE THE BLACK MEMORIES OF THE SEVENTH FLEET' S NUCLEAR WARSHIP ENTERPRISE IN THE BAY OF BENGAL? THEREFORE WE EARNESTLY REQUEST THE PRESENT REGIME OF BANGLADESH -- PLEASE DO NOT MAKE ANY MISTAKE: DO NOT PUSH

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BANGLADESH AND ITS PEOPLE INTO A NEW CALAMITY AS THE PRICE OF A NEW MISTAKE. WE HAVE STILL TIME. SO WATCH OUT."

2. AN APRIL 23 EDITORIAL PAGE COLUMN HEADED " WHIRLWIND TOUR OR CYCLONE SIGNAL? " SAYS" THE VISIT WAS AS SUDDEN AS THE MANIKGAN' TTORNADO" AND COMPARES THIS VISIT TO ONE BY FORMER US AMBASSADOR FARLAND FOLLOWING THE 1970 ELECTIONS AFTER WHICH 3 MILLION BANGALEES WERE KILLED. THE COLUMN GOES ON TO SAY " THE UNITED STATES IS STILL TODAY SUPPLYING ARMS TO PAKISTAN, DIRECTLY IN THE NAME OF AN OLD COMMITMENT, INDIRECTLY THROUGH IRAN AND TURKEY. ALTHOUGH THERE APPARENTLY IS NO NEED FOR THE ARMS SUPPLY, THE INTERNATIONAL CONSPIRACY DEMANDS IT. THIS TWO- FACED US POLICY HAS STOOD AS A GREAT BARRIER TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBCONTINENTAL PEACE. THE US IS MORE INTERESTED IN HAVING A BASE IN BANGLADESH RATHER THAN SEE IT IN THE UNITED NATIONS. AS ONE AFTER ANOTHER AMERICAN BASTION IS LOST, THE US NEEDS NEW FRONTS. THEY HAVE SUCCEEDED TO SOME EXTENT IN THIS RESPECT. INDIA HAS FALLEN INTO THE PL-480 TRAP. IT SEEMS INDIA AND ITS FRIEND BANGLADESH MAY BOTH TILT TO THAT TEMPTATION." FULLER

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